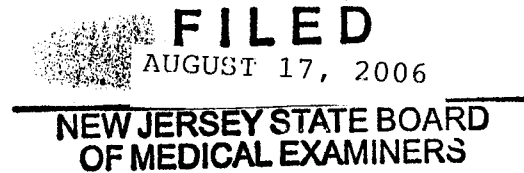


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION  
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

John O'Neal, M.D.  
License No.: 25MA03309100

TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND SURGERY  
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

CONSENT ORDER  
OF  
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners (Board) upon receipt of a report from the Professional Assistance Program (PAP) that John O'Neal, M.D. had relapsed into his abuse of alcohol as evidenced by Dr. O'Neal's positive urine drug screen on June 1, 2006 and Dr. O'Neal's acknowledgment of his relapse.

Dr. O'Neal was accepted into the Alternate Resolution Program (ARP) of the PHP (Physician Health Program, the predecessor of the PAP) on February 19, 1997 following his referral for a November 1996 alcohol abuse relapse. In February 2002, after five years of recovery, the PHP recommended that Dr. O'Neal's enrollment in the ARP be discontinued.

**CERTIFIED TRUE COPY**

However, in December 2004, after Dr. O'Neal self-reported an October 2004 relapse of alcohol abuse, the Impairment Review Committee (IRC) unanimously decided that Dr. O'Neal should re-enroll in the ARP for five more years of monitoring. Following Dr. O'Neal's second self-reported relapse in September 2005, Dr. O'Neal entered into a Private Letter Agreement with the PAP with the understanding that should he fail to comply with the stipulations set forth, or should he relapse into abuse of alcohol, an immediate notification of his identity would be made to the State Board of Medical Examiners.

On or about July 10, 2006, the PAP alerted the Board of Medical Examiners that Dr. O'Neal had relapsed into the abuse of alcohol as evidenced by his positive drug screen on June 1, 2006 and his own acknowledgment of his relapse. The PAP has represented that Dr. O'Neal has sent both his current New Jersey medical license registration and CDS registration to the PAP.

Dr. O'Neal seeks leave to voluntarily surrender his license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey without prejudice and in accordance with the terms of this Order. The Board finding the within disposition adequately protective of the public health, safety and welfare, and other good cause having been shown,

IT IS, therefore on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2006

ORDERED THAT

1. John O'Neal, M.D. is hereby granted leave and shall immediately surrender his license to practice Medicine and Surgery in the State of New Jersey for a minimum period of 6 months from the date of this Order.

2. Dr. O'Neal shall immediately return Dr. O'Neal's original New Jersey license and current biennial registration to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners, 140 E. Front Street, P.O. Box 183, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0183 upon his receipt of a filed copy of this Order.

3. Dr. O'Neal shall return his original CDS registration to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners, 140 E. Front Street, P.O. Box 183, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0183 upon his receipt of a filed copy of this Order.

4. Dr. O'Neal shall immediately advise the DEA of this Order.

5. Dr. O'Neal will comply fully with the monitoring program established for him by the PAP. Such monitoring program shall include but not be limited to:

1. Absolute abstinence from drugs and alcohol with the exception of medication prescribed by a treating physician for a documented medical condition with notification to the medical director of the PAP.
2. Successful completion of an approved treatment program under the supervision of the PAP.
3. Attendance at 90 meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous in 90 days, and thereafter at a frequency to be determined by the Medical Director of the PAP, but not less than three meetings per week. Dr. O'Neal shall provide evidence of attendance at such groups directly to the PAP on a form or in a manner as required by the Program.
4. Random urine monitoring under the supervision of the PAP on a random, unannounced basis, at a frequency to be determined by the PAP, but no less than 2 times per week. All test results shall be provided in the first instance directly to the PAP and any positive result shall be reported immediately by the PAP to the Executive Director of the Board.

Any failure by Dr. O'Neal to submit or provide a urine sample within twenty-four (24) hours of a request will be deemed to be an act of non-compliance with the terms of this order absent an excuse satisfactory to the PAP.

5. Dr. O'Neal shall submit to continued monitoring by the PAP and shall meet with the PAP on a face-to-face basis at least once a month. Dr. O'Neal agrees that the PAP shall advise the Board immediately in the event it receives information or evidence of noncompliant behavior and/or further relapse.
6. Participation in aftercare as prescribed by the Executive Director of the PAP.
6. Should Dr. O'Neal seek licensure in a State other than New Jersey, Dr. O'Neal authorizes the PAP to inform the licensing Board of that State of the current status of his recovery and his compliance with this Order.
7. Prior to any restoration of his license, Dr. O'Neal shall:
  - a. Appear before the Board or a committee thereof to discuss his readiness to reenter the practice of medicine. At that time Dr. O'Neal shall be prepared to propose his plans for future practice in New Jersey.
  - b. Provide the Board with evidence that he is capable of discharging the functions of a licensee in a manner consistent with the public's health, safety and welfare and that he is not then suffering from any impairment or limitation resulting from the use of alcohol or any other addictive substance which could affect his practice.
  - c. Provide the Board with discharge summaries from any in-patient programs and reports from each and every mental health professional (including but not limited to: psychologists, counselors, therapists, psychiatrists) who have participated in Dr. O'Neal's care and/or treatment for the disability in this matter during the period of time from the date the within Order is filed to his appearance before the Board.
  - d. Provide the Board with a report from the PAP detailing the nature and extent of his involvement with that entity.

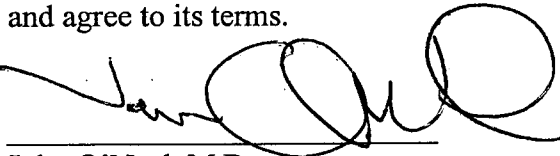
- e. Affirmatively establish his fitness, competence and capacity to re-enter the active practice of medicine and surgery within New Jersey.
- f. Provide the Board with a full account of his conduct during the intervening period of time from the entry of this Order to his appearance pursuant to this Order.

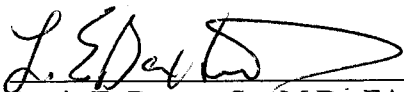
8. Dr. O'Neal shall comply with the "Directives Applicable to any Medical Board Licensee who is Suspended, Revoked or Whose Surrender of Licensure has been Accepted," attached hereto and made a part hereof.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF  
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: Sindy Paul, M.D., M.P.H.  
Sindy Paul, M.D., M.P.H.  
Board President

I have read the within Order  
and agree to its terms.

  
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John O'Neal, M.D.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Louis E. Baxter, Sr., M.D., FASAM  
Medical Director  
Professional Assistance Program - NJ